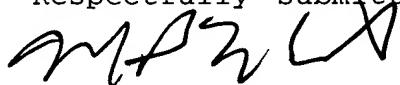


Not only do the cited references appear to not contemplate Applicants' claimed patient control feature, Moshfeghi et al. actually teaches away from this aspect of the claimed invention. Moshfeghi et al. explicitly teaches that access requires that the user identify themself in order to gain access. In addition, at column 3 lines 65-68, Moshfeghi et al. makes it clear that the system administrator alone controls access to the information. Thus, Moshfeghi et al. clearly teaches away from delegating at least a portion of access control to the patient. While it is true that Moshfeghi et al. appears to contemplate access to information by patients and visitors, they explicitly teach away from control over the grant of such access to anyone but the system administrator. In other words, a relative of a patient in the Moshfeghi et al. system can only gain access if a system administrator takes some action to enable that access. This is true even though one can assume that the patient informed the network administrator as to the identity of relatives to whom access would be granted. Thus, Moshfeghi et al. cannot properly be combined with any of the cited references to arrive at Applicants' claimed invention since it explicitly teaches away from one aspect of Applicants' claimed invention. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the outstanding §103 rejections be withdrawn.

In view of the amending changes made and arguments submitted, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance of claims 1-20. However, if the examiner believes that some minor additional clarification would put this application in even better condition for allowance, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (812) 333-5355 in order to hasten the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX  
MARKED UP AMENDED CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 8 and 16 as follows:

1. A patient information system comprising:
  - a computer server having a patient information forum for at least one patient, and each said patient information forum containing information regarding an individual patient;
  - a publicly accessible computer output device networked to said computer server;
  - a publicly accessible computer input device networked to said computer server; and
  - [a] an at least partially patient controlled security subsystem operably positioned between said patient information forum and said input device.
8. A method of exchanging information regarding a patient comprising the steps of:
  - establishing a patient information forum for a particular patient on a computer server;
  - networking said computer server into a publicly accessible computer network; [and]
  - limiting access to said patient information forum to a predetermined group of persons; and
  - enabling the particular patient to control at least a portion of the individuals that are included in said predetermined group of persons.
16. A software program comprising:
  - means for establishing a patient information forum on a publicly accessible computer network;
  - means for limiting access to said patient information forum to a predetermined group of persons; [and]
  - means for posting information regarding a particular patient on said patient information forum; and

means for enabling a patient for said patient  
information forum to control at least a portion of the individuals  
that are included in said predetermined group of persons.